AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-22. Canceled.

23. (New) A friction damper comprising:

a base body adapted to be capable of being attached to one of a pair of members which are displaced relative to each other;

a support secured to said base body and having a through hole and only one slit communicating with said through hole so that the diameter of said through hole can be reducible;

a rod which extends through the through hole of said support, is movable in an axial direction with respect to said support, and is adapted to be capable of being attached to another one of the pair of members; and

a friction member which has a hollow cylindrical portion interposed between said support and said rod in the through hole of said support, and only one collar united with said hollow cylindrical portion, and is fixed immovably with respect to the relative movement of the rod in the axial direction with respect to said base body at said collar,

said hollow cylindrical portion of said friction member having only one slit extending from one end face to another end face thereof in the axial direction so that the diameter of said hollow cylindrical portion can be reducible,

and said hollow cylindrical portion of said friction member further having a mesh base material disposed on a radially outer peripheral surface side thereof and a synthetic resin-made

sliding layer filling meshes of said base material and formed on one surface of said base material, and

said sliding layer being disposed on radially inner peripheral surface side of said hollow cylindrical portion so as to be brought into contact with said rod slidably in the axial direction.

24. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, further comprising:

tightening means for tightening said hollow cylindrical portion of said friction member against said rod, the through hole of said support and said hollow cylindrical portion of said friction member being reducible in diameter, said tightening means being adapted to reduce the diameter of said hollow cylindrical portion of said friction member through the reduction in diameter of the through hole of said support to tighten said hollow cylindrical portion against said rod.

25. (New) The friction damper according to claim 24, wherein said tightening means has a bolt threadedly engaged with said support, so as to be able to reduce the width of the slit.

26. (New) The friction damper according to claim 24, wherein a plurality of supports arranged in the axial direction are provided, and said tightening means and said friction member are provided for each of said supports.

27. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, wherein said base material comprises one of an expanded metal and a metal wire net.

28. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, wherein said sliding layer contains polyimide resin.

29. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, wherein said sliding layer contains tetrafluoroethylene resin.

30. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, wherein said base body includes a tubular body; one cover secured to one end portion of said tubular body and having a through hole through which said rod is passed through; and another cover secured to another end portion of said tubular body and having a fitting attached thereto for being attached to the one member, said support being secured to an inner peripheral surface of said tubular body.

31. (New) The friction damper according to claim 23, wherein said rod is formed of a solid or hollow member having a cylindrical surface on an outer peripheral surface thereof.